

ABSTRACT

A light intensity control apparatus for use in an information recording and reading system includes a light source driving device for driving a light source so as to generate a light having the first and higher second light intensity levels. A light intensity detection device is provided and includes a first light intensity detection member for detecting a prescribed intensity level of the light when a light modulation speed is relatively low, and a second light intensity detection member for detecting an average of the intensity of the light when it is relatively high. A detection member selection device is provided so as to select one of the first and second light intensity detection members depending upon a selection instruction so as to use one of the detection outputs. A reference level selection device is provided so as to select one of the first and the second reference levels to be compared with the one of the detection results depending upon the selection instruction. A comparison device may be provided so as to compare the one of detection results with a corresponding one of reference levels. A driving current adjustment device is provided in order to adjust the magnitude of a driving current that drives the light source in accordance with the comparison result.